



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

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District Man Wearing GPS Monitor Sentenced to 25 Years of Incarceration for Attacks on Two Teenaged Girls

WASHINGTON - A 24-year-old District of Columbia man, Tyrell Bobby Powell, has been ordered to serve a combined sentence of 300 months in prison for his convictions for First Degree Sexual Abuse, Kidnapping, Threats and related charges, in the February 13, 2008, assaults upon two teenaged girls along Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., as they left school, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor announced today. Powell was also sentenced to a period of 13 years of supervised release, following his incarceration. He will be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life. The Honorable Michael L. Rankin presided over the trial and imposed the sentence on April 24, 2009.

According to the evidence presented at trial, on February 13, 2008, at about 5:00 p.m., a 15-year-old female student at Roosevelt Senior High School, reported that she had been sexually abused by the defendant in a trash-strewn and graffiti-ridden garage in an alley off of Webster Street, NW. The defendant first approached her in the Uneeda Market located at the intersection of Webster Street, NW, and Georgia Avenue, NW, where she went to purchase a snack before attending an after school sporting event. As the girl walked back to Roosevelt, the defendant, with his hand under his shirt, approached her again and told her to step into the alley so that he wouldn't have to shoot her in front of all of these people.

While the police were at Roosevelt, they learned that a 14-year-old female student at McFarland Middle School (which is located next door Roosevelt), reported that an unknown male attempted to force her into his car at the intersection of Georgia Avenue and Jefferson Street, NW. That attack took place about 40 minutes before, and was located about ten blocks north of where, the 15-year-old girl was sexually assaulted. The girls do not know one another.

At trial, the evidence showed that the 14-year-old girl first saw a white car at the intersection of Webster Street and Georgia Avenue, NW, when she walked from McFarland Middle School to the bus stop at that intersection. The car then followed and kept pace with the Metrobus as it proceeded north on Georgia Avenue, NW. Concerned about the suspicious activity of the car, the 14-year-old disembarked at Ingraham Street, NW, a few

blocks before her regular stop. As she walked up Georgia Avenue, NW, and reached the side of the Macombo Lounge, located at the intersection of Jefferson Street, NW, she saw the same white car and she attempted to call her mother on a cellular telephone. The defendant stepped into her path, snapped her cellular telephone closed, grabbed her and told her get into the car so that he wouldn't have to shoot her in front of all these people. The 14-year-old girl resisted and eventually escaped into the Macombo Lounge for help.

The police obtained copies of a surveillance video from the convenience store which showed the defendant following the 15-year-old girl. From that video, the police prepared a still photograph of a suspect that was released to the media on February 14, 2008. The defendant's parole officer and another employee of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency ("CSOSA") saw the image on the evening news and recognized the defendant as an offender who currently reported for supervision to their Taylor Street, NW office and who was subjected to GPS monitoring. The defendant's GPS data linked him to both crime scenes, and DNA evidence linked him to the sexual assault of the 15-year-old victim.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Taylor praised the efforts of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) lead Detective Jeffrey Folts, Detectives Ephriam Williams, Darryn Robinson, and Benjamin Oh, MPD Officers Alan Herring, James Holder, Santos Portillo, Matthew Krimmel, and Ricardo Leiva, and MPD employee Douglas Deedrick. He also thanked CSOSA employees Arthur Elkins, Paul Brennan, Carlton Butler, Reyna Cartagena, Tigist Tarakegn and Carla Reeder-Mason. Finally, he acknowledged the following employees of the U.S. Attorney's Office: Paralegal Supervisor Lynita Greene; Paralegals Joyce Arthur, Eugena Johnson, Jason Manuel and Kristy Kropfelder; Legal Assistant Tiffany Jones; Victim Witness Assistance Advocate Veronica Vaughan; Victim Witness Services Coordinator Katina Adams; Kimberly Smith, Joseph Calvarese and Tyrone Bowie of the Litigation Services Department; Librarian Katie Zeigler; Clerks Aaren Allen and Chanel Wells; and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Denise Simmonds and Sharon Donovan, who prosecuted the case.

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